

To:
Amy Wolfson and the Nevada City Council

Re: Cannabis Medical Dispensary

To the Nevada City Council,

Greetings from Grace Lutheran Church in Grass Valley,

For over 50 years Grace Lutheran has sat on Ridge road and served Nevada County in a wide variety of social outreach projects. For the last 8 years we have started and established the High School Hangout on our property which sits next to NU High School. We have several members and volunteers in this parish from Nevada City and Grass Valley.

In 8 years our program has reached well over 27,000 student visitors in and has become a regular, stable after school program that hundreds of Nevada County parents have relied on for their kids to be at once school is finished for the day. Each week we have parents tell us how thankful they are for the safe space we provide for their kids. We provide free food, drinks, games, tutoring and safe space for students at NU to hangout while parents are working and in other situations.

The recent discussions concerning a cannabis dispensary is deeply disturbing to us at Grace and the Hangout. We feel that this dispensary is too close to the school, and to our campus and the thousands of visitors we see each year who rely on our safe, drug and alcohol free environment. We have already heard from students and administration about the rampant drug availability on the NU campus through edible forms of cannabis. We are concerned that a dispensary at the proposed location will only enhance and promote more of our youth to find forms of cannabis that can be regularly abused.

We are deeply concerned as a congregation formed of people who live, work, and own businesses in Nevada County that a cannabis dispensary would be so closely located to our high school and our congregation that has so strongly served so many of our youth in our community for the past 8 years. Please consider our youth in our community and consider that this dispensary will be more of a hinderance than benefit for our community.

Sincerely,

Pastor Kent Schaaf

Deaconess Elizabeth Froh - Hangout Coordinator

Grace Lutheran Church